

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3516

ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006

AFFORESTATION

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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many State Governments have not achieved the targets fixed for afforestation during the Ninth Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore;
- (c) the percentage of decline in afforestation rate during Ninth Five Year Plan;
- (d) the targets fixed for afforestation during the Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to achieve the targets within the stipulated time?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMONARAIN MEENA)

- (a) and (b) Some States could not achieve the targets fixed for afforestation during the Ninth Five Year Plan. The reasons for this shortfall ranged from inadequate budgetary support, non-availability of lands, and adverse climatic conditions.
- (c) The decline in afforestation during Ninth Five Year Plan was in respect of tree planting on private lands with 503.63 crores seedlings being planted as against 558.7 crores in Eight Five Year Plan. However, taking into account the afforestation on public lands including forest lands there was no decline on an overall basis.
- (d) The State-wise cumulative annual targets fixed for tree planting under 20-Point Programme during the Tenth Five Year Plan are given in the Annexure.
- (e) The steps taken to achieve the targets within the stipulated time comprise provision of assistance for High-tech nurseries and Satellite nurseries for production of Quality Planting Material augmentation of National Afforestation Programme (NAP) with additional component of assistance to Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) for their constitution and formulation of micro-plans, substantial step-up in budgetary allocation, decentralized implementation of NAP, securing people's participation and comparatively improved position of manpower in some states. Besides the process of promoting tree planting on private land, including farm lands, is on for which the States have been advised to rationalize the regulations relating to felling and transit of trees